

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 176

Recognizing the National Hockey League's New Jersey Devils and National Basketball Association's New Jersey Nets for their accomplishments during the 2002–2003 season.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 19, 2003

Mr. CORZINE (for himself and Mr. LAUTENBERG) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the National Hockey League's New Jersey Devils and National Basketball Association's New Jersey Nets for their accomplishments during the 2002–2003 season.

Whereas the New Jersey Devils defeated the Anaheim Mighty Ducks 3–0 on June 9, 2003 to win the Stanley Cup in 7 games;

Whereas the New Jersey Nets won the National Basketball Association (NBA) Eastern Conference Championship and reached the NBA Finals for the second consecutive year before losing a closely contested series to the San Antonio Spurs in 6 games;

Whereas the Devils won their third Stanley Cup in the last 9 years, as many as any other team in that period;

Whereas the Devils and Nets have won over the State of New Jersey (where the first professional basketball game took place in 1898) with their skillful offenses and stifling defenses;

Whereas the Devils and Nets have come to epitomize the never-say-die spirit of the people of New Jersey and have both become an important part of the State and its identity;

Whereas the fans of both New Jersey teams have shown the same spirit and determination in support of their teams and deserve commendation for their loyalty in this season's playoffs;

Whereas the Devils had a 12 win, 1 loss record at the Continental Airlines Arena, the most home wins in the history of the Stanley Cup playoffs;

Whereas the Nets swept both the Boston Celtics and the Detroit Pistons during a 10-game winning streak in this season's playoffs;

Whereas Pat Burns, head coach of the New Jersey Devils, has enjoyed the kind of success that has eluded so many other great coaches, winning his first Stanley Cup title in his first season as head coach of the Devils;

Whereas Byron Scott, head coach of the New Jersey Nets, has guided the Nets to the most wins in franchise history, and has led them to the NBA Finals in 2 of his 3 seasons as head coach;

Whereas Martin Brodeur, regarded by many as the premier playoff goaltender in hockey history, recorded 3 shutouts in the Finals, giving him 7 shutouts during this season's playoffs and 20 during his illustrious postseason career;

Whereas the outstanding playmaking abilities of Jason Kidd, widely regarded as the best point guard in the NBA, has been key to the success of the Nets during the past 2 seasons;

Whereas the outstanding play of Ken Daneyko, Martin Brodeur, Scott Stevens, Sergei Brylin, and Scott Niedermayer has been a vital part of each of the 3 Stanley Cup Championships enjoyed by the New Jersey Devils organization;

Whereas Jason Kidd has superb teammates in Brandon Armstrong, Jason Collins, Lucious Harris, Richard Jefferson, Anthony Johnson, Kerry Kittles, Donny Marshall, Kenyon Martin, Dikembe Mutombo, Rodney Rogers, Brian Scalabrine, Tamar Slay, and Aaron Williams, allowing the team to win its second consecutive NBA Eastern Conference championship; and

Whereas the name of each Devils player will be inscribed on the Stanley Cup, including Tommy Albelin, Jiri Bicek, Martin Brodeur, Sergei Brylin, Ken Daneyko, Patrik Elias, Jeff Friesen, Brian Gionta, Scott Gomez, Jamie Langenbrunner, John Madden, Grant Marshall, Jim McKenzie, Scott Niedermayer, Joe Nieuwendyk, Jay Pandolfo, Brian Rafalski, Pascal Rheaume, Mike Rupp, Corey Schwab, Richard Schmelik, Scott Stevens, Turner Stevenson, Oleg Tverdovsky, and Colin White: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate congratulates—

2 (1) the New Jersey Devils for their determina-
3 tion, perseverance, and excellence in winning the Na-
4 tional Hockey League's 2003 Stanley Cup; and

- 1 (2) the New Jersey Nets for their success dur-
- 2 ing the 2002–2003 NBA season.

